

1910, 1925, & TODAY



THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY FOR THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE IN THE ORIENT OF CALIFORNIA

THE RITE WORD

May 2016

Volume 10, Issue 5



My Brothers,

Spring is here and with it brings the promise of renewal. The Easter season reminds us of this as well as helps us remember those that have departed for that spiritual building not made with hands. I am always moved at the solemnity of the Rose Croix Maundy Thursday ceremony.

Thank you Wise Master Brandon Duenas for putting together this important ceremony. The team did an impressive job.

Plans are still in the works for more social activities. Keep an eye on the other Master's articles for what they have in store. Chuck Cowden is again sponsoring a lodge of instruction on June 21, 2016. These are generally scheduled around the summer and winter solstices which are also when we celebrate the Saints John. These events are always informative and have had many esoteric and historic topics presented by the key note speakers. If you have never attended a Lodge of Instructions, I would highly recommend it.

Tom Bergevin
Venerable Master




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Make your contribution to the **San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies** and have your name included on the **“Honor Roll”**.

Your annual gift of \$100.00 or more will help the San Jose Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory reach the level necessary to provide quality events for our future success.

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The “2016” Honor Roll**

We, the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation(TIN 94-2541623), hereby certify that all funds received on the behalf of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation, The Children’s Language Disorders Clinic, and/or the San Jose Scottish Rite Scholarship funds are used for charitable purposes only and the donor receives no goods or services in return for their donation.*

San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

2016 - Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Senior Warden	Bro. Martin Maxey, 32°	831-402-4903
Junior Warden	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
Captain of the Host	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822

2016 - Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Senior Warden	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Junior Warden	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32° KCCH	831-685-3416
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831-334-4041
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079

2016- Council of Kadosh

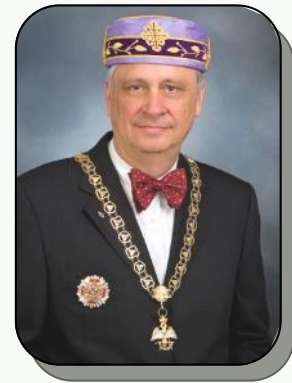
Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Richard Bartlett, 32°	831-331-3342
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Marshal of Ceremonies	Any Volunteers?	
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Bill Mattson, 32°	408-771-1872

2016 San Jose Consistory

Master of Kadosh	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700
Prior	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Preceptor	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Oscar James, 32°	408-644-1023
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Kevin Griffith, 32°	408-259-6965

2016- General Officers

Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Assist. to the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277
General Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Prelate	Bro. Mike Sloan, 32°	408-365-8266
Almoner	Bro. Jerry Best, 32° KCCH	408-712-5370
Orator/Librarian	Bro. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408-836-6792
Tiler	Bro. Tom Tefft, 32°	408-229-9460
Club Liaison	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
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**Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council A.A.S.R.
Washington, D.C.**



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.
Sovereign Grand Inspector
General in California,
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.**

Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation

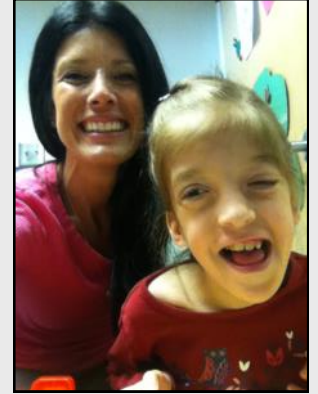
President	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
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Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
Director (exp 9/30/2018)	Bro. Wayne Rose, 32°	408-266-4184
Director (exp 9/30/2018)	Bro. H. Bud Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Venerable Master	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Wise Master	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
Master of Kadosh	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700
Assist. To the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of San Jose, in the Orient of California, acknowledge and yield all allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty Third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

From the Clinic



Manon is an adorable nine year old girl who has been seen at the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinic for cleft palate and a severe expressive communication disorder. Initially Manon came to our clinic with no words and only the sounds /m/, /h/ and the vowel /a/. She did not use any words with the exception of /mama/ for “mommy” and /aa/ for “daddy”. Manon has made exceptional progress with her speech skills given the severity of her communication disorder. She is one of the most loving and spirited children in our clinic with a radiant smile and a fun personality. She is such a pleasure to see every week. And it has been wonderful watching her grow in her communication skills!



Manon’s parents heard about our clinic from another family. Her mother reported that Manon’s speech and language skills were “very limited” prior to services at our clinic and “her confidence was low and she was frustrated.” Since treatment began Manon has increased her sound system to include the sounds /n, b, p/ in addition to the /m/ and /h/ sounds. She has increased her expressive vocabulary to include nearly 50 words and is now using two-word phrases despite her limited sound system. Given Manon’s diagnosis of cleft palate, treatment requires specific therapeutic techniques to facilitate progress. Manon’s family is always supportive and up for the task of working with Manon at home so that progress is continual.

When asked about her thoughts regarding the therapy Manon has received from our clinic, Manon’s mother was so kind and gracious. “Our family has been greatly impacted. We are so grateful for the positive changes Rachel has been able to bring to our daughter and family. She can express herself more directly...The kindness, support and knowledge that Rachel has been able to share with us [has] helped Manon to grow her speech skills and language. Rachel’s patience and determination is a blessing. Our family’s experience has been positive. We have seen tremendous progress and gains in our daughter. The ability to gain more verbal skills and communication has relieved her frustration and allowed her personality to bloom. Rachel and Jenna are highly skilled and very supportive. They develop great relationships with the families. I know our family could not financially support the services we receive at the Scottish Rite clinic. We are so thankful for the services we have been lucky enough to receive. It has been life changing for our entire family but most of all has given our daughter a real chance to improve and grow in a way that can only be understood by the people in her life. Thank you for this tremendous gift.” Manon is a blessing to have in our clinic and we are so encouraged by her determination and that of her family! Thank you for the opportunity to work with her

"Celebrating the Craft"

An Event for all Brothers and Families

If you haven’t already done so, put May 21 on your calendar—and put a red circle around it! That is the day of the Annual “Celebrating the Craft” Webcast from the House of the Temple. This 6 hour telethon is now in its 4th year, and keeps getting more popular. And this year, San Jose Scottish Rite will be part of the party! We will be showing the whole 6 hours on a large screen in our downstairs conference room, complete with comfortable chairs, munchies and drinks—maybe even hot dogs & burgers. The event runs from 3pm—9pm, and will include numerous musical and variety acts, never before filmed rooms and areas of the House of the Temple, interviews with celebrities and much more. Come for an hour or the whole event. Bring the family, enjoy time with your Brothers, and support our famed and glorious Temple!

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Calls/visitors
Welcome!**Jack Harris**1066 Camino Ramon
San Jose, CA. 95125408-314-6124
Calls/visitors
Welcome!

Please remember to notify us when a fellow Brother is ill, in need, or has passed to the other shore.

We are not always contacted in a timely manner. Scottish Rite is here to assist! Please feel free to call anytime! (408) 978-7483

“Called from Labor:**Bro. Wallace E. Stovall, 32°****February 27, 2015**

Please remember those brothers that are shut in. A friendly call or note from a fellow brother would be a warm and appreciated gesture. Though, they cannot always be present, they are certainly not out of mind. We wish them all the best. God Bless.

Greetings Brethren,

From the Master of Kadosh

In Sufi circles, it is customary for students to soak themselves in stories set for their study, so that the internal dimensions may be unlocked by the teaching master as, and when, the candidate is judged ready for the experiences which they bring. Most fables contain at least some truth and often enable people to absorb ideas which the ordinary patterns of their thinking would prevent them from digesting. Fables have therefore been used, not least by the Sufiteachers, to present a picture of life more in harmony with their feelings than is possible by means of intellectual exercises. Sound familiar?

***The Blind Ones and the Matter of the Elephant!***

Beyond Ghor there was a city. All its inhabitants were blind. A king with his entourage arrived nearby. He brought his army and camped in the desert. He had a mighty elephant, which he used in attack and to increase the people's awe. The populace became anxious to see the elephant, and some sightless from among this blind community ran like fools to find it. As they did not even know the form or shape of the elephant, they groped it sightlessly to gather information about it from its several different parts! Each thought that he knew something, because he could feel a part. When they returned to their fellow-citizens eager groups clustered around them. Each of these was anxious, misguidedly, to learn the truth from those who were themselves astray. ! They asked about the form, the shape of the elephant: and listened to all that they were told. ! The man whose hand had reached an ear was asked about the elephant's nature. He said: 'It is a large, rough thing, wide and broad, like a rug. !' And the one who had felt the trunk said: 'I have the real facts about it. It is like a straight and hollow pipe, awful and destructive. !' The one who had felt its feet and legs said: 'It is might and firm, like a pillar. !' Each had felt one part out of many. Each had perceived it wrongly. No mind knew all: knowledge is not the companion of the blind. All imagined something - something incorrect! The created is not informed about divinity. There is no Way in this science by means of the ordinary intellect. !

This tale is more famous in Rumi's version-"The Elephant in the Dark House,' found in the Mathnavi. Rumi's teacher Hakim Sanai gives this earlier treatment in the first book of his Sufi classic, *The Walled Garden of Truth*. He died in 1150. ! Both stories are themselves renderings of a similar argument which, according to traditions, has been used by Sufi teaching masters for centuries.

J.R. McGouert



Be sure to make your reservations!!!
Hall # 408-978-7483
or Email Angela !
adathans@gmail.com
or Call Angela Cell #(408)561-0129



MAY MENU

Lite Appetizers

Chips & Salsa & Guacamole
 Cheese Quesadillas & Taquitos

Dinner

Spanish Rice
 Mexican Pot Beans
 FAJITAS- Beef and Chicken, with Colored Peppers
 & Onions with Tortillas
 Mixed Green Salad -

Dessert

\$15.00 per person Reservations Required!!!
Vegetarian Entrée must be requested in advance !



Greeting Brothers,

From the Wise Master

We have a few special days in this month. One of them started with the name Decoration Day, and began after the Civil War in 1868. This holiday was started by the Grand Army of the Republic which was a Union group from Illinois. They would decorate the graves of the fallen soldiers of war with flowers. Due to rivaling dates between the Union and Confederates on when this day should fall, there was a date finally set which we know as Memorial Day (the last Monday in May). This day united the Union and the Confederates in honoring fallen soldiers on both sides of the war. This day is not to be confused with Veterans Day, which celebrates the U.S. Military Veterans. We will notice the flag of the United States moving several times this day. In the morning Old Glory will be quickly hoisted to full mast, then ceremoniously lowered to half mast until noon where it will be raised back to full mast for the remainder of the day. The symbolic meaning of the flags movement is one of beauty. While at half mast it is to remind us of the over 1 million soldiers that have given their life for our country. When the flag is raised **at noon** it symbolizes the soldiers memory being raised by the living, acknowledging that their efforts were not in vain, allowing us to rise up and to fight for liberty, and justice for all. Other important days that fall on this month are the Kentucky Derby (7th), Mothers Day(8th), and Armed Forces Day(21st).

**If any are interested in the KSA gathering in Omaha on the 20th and 21st,
 Please see our Chief Knight, or myself or details.**

May the fourth be with you,

Brandon Heath Duenas Wise Master

MASTER CRAFTSMAN PROGRAM

We will try once again to get the Master Craftsman Study Group going. We are going to be going though the Master Craftsman Philosophy with Morals and Dogma. This is actually the 3rd installment of the program, but you can work on it along with the group regardless of having completed the others. This group is open to any Master Mason as Morals and Dogma is a publicly available book. So, if you know someone at your Lodge that may be interested — have them come down.

We will meet on the Third Tuesday of the Month at 7pm.

**Please contact Gregg Hall at: 408-656-2459 or greggahall@gmail.com
 if you are interested and he will give you all the details.**



Greetings to all my Brothers in the Valley of San Jose,

Since this is my first correspondence as Chief Knight, let me impress upon you that the Knights are looking forward to serving our Valley. We plan on doing so with a very collaborative effort with the four Bodies as well as having fun doing so. We are looking forward towards an exceptional year.

In support of that, the Knights just completed conferring the 29th degree in the Valley of Stockton on the 23rd of April. It was the desire on one brother in particular to start a chapter of the Knights of Saint Andrew in the Valley of Stockton... Brother Kirby Robinson. He contacted our Degree Director, BJ McCuiston a couple of months ago, thus the seed was planted and the process began. It was a challenging endeavor due to the process of new cast members being needed. I, for one, was one of the newbies. During the preparations and practices, there were feelings of frustration and doubt due to some of the trial and tribulations experienced by the team as "life got in the way" of some of the knights involved. It was a challenge but we all pulled together, supported our brothers that had to excuse themselves from the degree team and performed quite well on April 23rd. But the degree was performed with sadness in our hearts due to the absence of our Brother Kirby from the Valley of Stockton. Brother Kirby Robinson met an untimely death approximately ten days before we were to perform the degree.

His determination and commitment to starting a KSA chapter was echoed by every brother we encountered in the Valley of Stockton. It was an honor for this Valley's KSA chapter to knight 18 Brothers into the KSA in the Valley of Stockton and to help realize the dream of Brother Kirby. Performing the 29th degree was also a moment of growth for me as a Mason because of the pride I experienced in performing the degree with fellow Knights. What a great group of men!

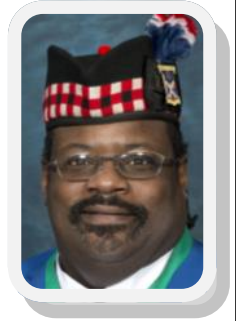
So what do you do when you are surrounded by such a great group of men.....you have fun! Since I could not attend the meeting with all the Masters, I am looking to review their calendars and support as many activities we can in the Valley. Also heed this: Knight Rick Bartlett will be putting together a paintball event where the Knights will be putting forth a friendly challenge against the 4 Bodies in paintball. I am also planning on putting together a meeting/ social for all the Bay Area KSA chapters so that we can come together and become more acquainted with one another and possibly get a common tent with one another at the Scottish Games this fall in Pleasanton.

Stay tuned to this space for more upcoming events sponsored your San Jose Valley of the Knights of Saint Andrew. Thank you all for support of the KSA

Fraternally,

JK

Chief Knight,



2016 Reunion in June. Will YOU be There?!!

As most of you are probably aware by now, we will be having just ONE Reunion in 2016. The dates are: June 17-18, 25 and 29: The schedule is as follows:

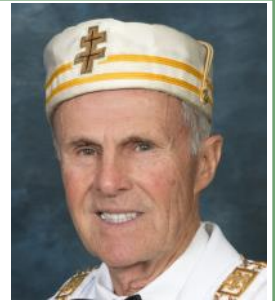
Jun 17: 4-7 Degrees Jun 18: 8-18 Degrees Jun 25: 19-30 Degrees Jun 29: 31-32 Degrees

Since this will probably be our LAST Reunion in this building, we want to make sure that it is one to be long remembered! We are planning to confer THIRTEEN of the Degrees, and our Degree Teams are already hard at work on their Ritual. BUT!! - What is a Reunion without Candidates? And—what is a “Re-YOU-nion” without Brothers there to support the Candidates and participate in & relive their own Reunions? Each of you know of at least one deserving Master Mason who would greatly enjoy and benefit from our Degrees—the same as YOU DID!! Talk to them about Scottish Rite Masonry, give them a petition (there’s one on the back page!) and offer to be their top line signer. Then come and sit with them as they experience the lore, drama, lessons and truths of our Degrees. Let’s make this the **BIGGEST CLASS** we’ve ever had in this building. Only YOU can make it happen. Go - spread the word throughout the land. And - they will come.....

FROM THE COMMANDER

“The info found in this article is taken from the SCOTTISH RITE RITUAL MONITOR and GUIDE”

The San Jose Council of Kadosh is the Body responsible for the 19th through the 30th Scottish Rite Degrees, known as the “Philosophical and Chivalric Degrees.” The information found below is a synopsis of the 22nd Degree—known as the KNIGHT of the ROYAL AXE, or PRINCE of LIBANUS.



“Dignity of Labor and the Measurement of Progress.”

IDLENESS IS A DEADLY DETERRENCE TO ADVANCEMENT. Life is a process of never ending refinement, resulting ultimately in the achievement of perfection. Toil, the effort we expend to reach a goal, is the force which drives us to that perfection. There is always another lesson to be learned, always a new vista or horizon opening before us, and if we apply ourselves as if our lives depended on it, both as individuals and as a society, there is no limit to the heights we might climb.

This is symbolized by Labor and by the proper application of tools. Knowledge can destroy as readily as it can create, as a tool in a careless hand may cut the operator. You are taught to apply yourself in overcoming obstacles, and learn that the only way to defeat evil is to make energetic progress in the good.

A NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS!: The Council of Kadosh will sponsor a visit to the San Jose Giants Baseball Team - a day or evening at the baseball park located on Senter Road and Alma in San Jose. Late spring or early summer, after the rains stop, will be the best time to attend. If you are interested in attending a San Jose Giants game, contact me, Roger Bibb, in person; by phone at 408-858-9448; or email at rogerbibb@yahoo.com.

**ROGER BIBB,
COMMANDER
SAN JOSE COUNCIL OF KADOSH**

*The Personal Representative and
The Venerable Master
of the Valley of San Jose*

Invite all Scottish Rite Freemasons and all other Freemasons to

A Night of Scottish Rite Instruction

Tuesday, June 21, 2016 — 6:30 PM to 9:00PM

Brother Jay Kinney From Mission Lodge No. 169

Will Present His Paper: “Is There an Esoteric Masonry?”

Schedule of Events

6:30 PM - Social Gathering

7:00 PM - Presentation by Brother Kinney

7:30 PM - Festive Agape/Dinner Cost \$25.00

Bring a Blue Lodge Guest

Requested dress is white tie & tails, tux or dark suit & tie with SR Cap

NOTE:

Reservations are REQUIRED. NO tickets sold at the door.

**Please call the SJ Scottish Rite @ 408-978-7483 or visit the office
to make your reservations**

Payment must accompany reservation.

Reservations not cancelled by June 17, must be honored.

From the Secretary's Table....

I hope you all enjoyed the April showers (wish there had been more!) and are now starting to enjoy the May flowers. My garden roses are starting to bloom, and the scent is wonderful. Years ago I heard a saying that went something like this: “If you have but 10cents, spend 5 on food and 5 on flowers, that you may feed both your body and your soul.” Good advice. Enjoy the bounties provided us by our Great Creator.

I need some help, my Brothers. As of today, April 27, there are still about 130 of you who have yet to pay your 2016 dues. If you are one and know it, please contact the Secretary's Office today and take care of it. We can take a credit card over the phone. If you think you paid but aren't certain, call me and I'll let you know. And—if you are having financial or medical problems and have trouble paying, call me and we can work something out. Don't risk being suspended by doing nothing. We are a Brotherhood and take care of each other. I am here for you. Call me.

Lastly, the SJ Masonic Center will be hosting a Grand Lodge Management Certification Course on May 11. Topic is: “Membership Experience.” Time is 6:30-9:30pm. Cost is \$15. Course is open to ALL Masons, and is the First Time that Grand Lodge will be having such an event in Northern CA! This is an event NOT to be missed!! Items will include: meaningful ritual, attracting new members, keeping Masonry relevant, bringing back lost members, and much more. We can all get SOMETHING out of this to help our Lodges grow and prosper! Even if you pick up only one good idea—the evening will have been worth it! Contact Lee Brooks at: (408) 625-9032 and make your reservation.





RE-you-NION

Replace the 'U' with 'YOU'!

Join with your Brothers at the Summer 2016 Reunion!

June 17-18, 25 & 29, 2016

Support San Jose Membership
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PROPOSITION/PETITION

ORIENT OF SAN JOSE
ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
Office of the Secretary (408) 978-7483
2455 Masonic Drive – PO Box 18220, San Jose, CA. 95158-8220

Fee: \$150.00 *(must accompany this petition)*

(Please print or type)

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-Mail address: _____

Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth : _____

Present Blue Lodge: _____ Approx. Date Raised: _____

Location: _____

Name of Spouse: _____

Occupation (If retired, previous occupation): _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Have you ever petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees?: _____

I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Wholeheartedly believing in the foregoing, I respectfully apply for membership with San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recommended by:

1: _____ 2: _____



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OF THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE

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Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events

Tuesday, May 10th ~ Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program—Awarding of 25 and 50 Year Pins and Certificates

Wednesday, May 11th ~ Grand Lodge Management Certification Training

6:30pm–9:30pm - San Jose Masonic Center Topic — ‘MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE’ Only \$15

Sunday, May 15th ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together

1:00pm-7:00pm - Host: Wors Jason Hawkinson-Prater, — Bring something for the Festal Table to share

Tuesday, May 17th ~ MONTHLY Master Craftsman Class - 7:00pm . See article inside

Saturday, May 21st ~ “Celebrating the Craft!”

3:00pm–9:00pm - Live Webcast from the House of the Temple. Drinks & munchies. See article inside

Tuesday, May 24th ~ MONTHLY ALL OFFICER COUNCIL MEETING - 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 25th ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Willow Glen-Fraternity Lodge #399

6:30pm - Dinner ~ 7:30pm - LOI—Ritual of the 3rd Degree/2nd Section All Master Masons welcome

Tuesday, June 7th ~ VMAP & Tough Mudder Seminar– 5:00-9:00pm. More details next month

Tuesday, June 14th ~ Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program—TBD

Tuesday, June 21st ~ “NIGHT of INSTRUCTION”- 6:30-9:00pm . See article inside

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